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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PROGRAMME OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

Forty-first session

SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE 453rd TO 462nd MEETINGS

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
from 1 to 5 October 1990, on 6 February and
on 28 June 1991

Corrigendum

The present document contains the corrections made by the delegations and the Secretariat to the English text of the summary records of the meetings held by the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme at its forty-first session (A/AC.96/SR.453-462).

With the issuance of the present corrigendum, the summary records of the above meetings are to be considered as final.

GE.92-02205/4863H

454th meeting

Paragraph 17, line 4

For 177 read 117

455th meeting

Paragraphs 14, line 1

The name of the speaker should read Mr. SUTHANUKUL

458th meeting

Paragraph 10, penultimate line

For A/AC.96/743 read A/AC.96/742

Paragraph 21, line 10

For defective read effective

Paragraph 25, last sentence

For Amir read Emir

Paragraph 34, line 1

For words read world

Paragraph 48, line 10

Delete that

459th meeting

Paragraph 29, line 1

For the existing text substitute

29. Mr. DEMIRALP (Turkey) said that the Cyprus question was an integrated whole and it was to be taken up, in all its aspects, between the two sides on the island, through negotiations on an equal footing. This was a procedure reconfirmed by Security Council resolution 649 (1990). Attempts to single out certain aspects of the Cyprus question and to pretend to seek solutions in a forum where one of the two sides was not represented was tantamount to the exploitation of humanitarian issues for political propaganda purposes. He protested at the exploitation of the plight.

Paragraph 30

For the existing text substitute

30. In 1958, even before the island had acceded to independence, again in 1963 and as late as 1974, despite the presence of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus, Turkish Cypriot villages and urban areas had been attacked and in some cases destroyed. Turkish Cypriots had been dispersed in over 40 enclaves that were in all parts of the island but covered only 3 per cent of its territory. After the coup d'état of 1974, both Turkish and Greek Cypriots had been obliged to seek refuge in safer areas. The persistence in following hostile policies by one side had left no alternative but to regroup the two peoples in two separate zones. At the third round of the intercommunal talks held in Vienna between 31 July and 2 August 1975, the two sides reached an agreement on the regrouping of each population in their own territory with the Turkish Cypriots in the north and the Greek Cypriots in the south, paving the way for the introduction of a bi-zonal federal system. Both communities had suffered great hardships, but the population in the north was more in need of humanitarian aid than that in the south. In fact, since 1975, the Turkish Cypriot people, determined to defend their freedom, security and dignity, had suffered from numerous inhumane restrictions imposed by the other side in the economic and cultural fields. As far as the population of the south was concerned, they were the only group of so-called displaced persons in the world who enjoyed a per capita GNP of $8,000 a year. It would appear that holding on to persons still not properly resettled or reintegrated was a deliberate policy on the part of the other side, which hoped to retake the north of the island and re-establish its pre-1974 status.

Paragraph 31

For the existing text substitute

31. United Nations Security Council resolution 649 (1990) had made provision for the establishment of a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation. Futile attempts were being made to overturn the principle of bi-zonality by exploiting the question of displaced persons. Those persons receiving UNHCR's assistance on the island could in no way be considered as refugees. The role of UNHCR in Cyprus was limited to coordinating United Nations humanitarian assistance to both sides. Turkey hoped that that programme would continue to be implemented, but with the emphasis on Turkish Cypriots, bearing in mind that the Cyprus question was to be resolved by the establishment of a bi-communal and bi-zonal federation.

Paragraph 35

The second sentence should read

His delegation would support an increase in the United Nations regular budget contribution to UNHCR, provided the overall United Nations regular budget remains at zero real growth.

Paragraph 49

For the existing text substitute

49. Mr. DEMIRALP (Turkey), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that one of the objectives of the coup d'état by the Greek Cypriots in 1974 had been to strike at the defenceless Turkish Cypriot people dispersed throughout the island. Turkey had then intervened, in exercise of the rights and obligations under the 1960 Treaty of Guarantee, to protect the Turkish Cypriot people and to preserve the independence of the island. He had not wanted to enter into a political debate and would keep to humanitarian issues.

Paragraph 50

For the existing text substitute

50. In Cyprus there had always been two different peoples separated by language, traditions, culture and ethnic origin. There was no Cypriot nation. It was the Greek Cypriots themselves who had said at the time that the 1960 Agreement, which recognized the independence of Cyprus, had created a State but not a nation. Two peoples had always coexisted in Cyprus within a dual social structure. The physical separation was the fault of the Greek Cypriots, who had launched an all-out attack against the Turkish Cypriots in 1963. The "green line" in Nicosia had been drawn on the map to protect Turkish Cypriots against the violence and aggression of Greek Cypriots. After the 1974 coup d'état, the Greek Cypriot attitude, which had been the initial cause of the separation had left no alternative but to regroup the two peoples of Cyprus into two separate zones. The agreement on the voluntary exchange of populations, signed in Vienna in 1975, had served as a basis for the four-point guidelines on which the leaders of the two sides had agreed on 12 February 1977, and which envisaged the establishment of an independent bi-communal, bi-zonal federal republic. Those principles had been reconfirmed by Security Council resolution 649 (1990). It was thus abundantly clear that the solution to the Cypriot question would be a bi-zonal one.

Paragraph 51, line 4

For State read solution

Paragraph 53

For the existing text substitute

53. Mr. DEMIRALP (Turkey) speaking in exercise of the right of reply, pointed out that the existence of an greement concerning the voluntary exchange of populations - an agreement which had already been implemented - had once again been ignored. That agreement had paved the way for the concept of bi-zonality, which had been reconfirmed by Security Council resolution 649 (1990). The only feasible alternative was for the two peoples of Cyprus to coexist side by side, since the policies of

oppression pursued by the Greek Cypriots had made living together impossible. In view of the voluntary character of the population exchange, and the bi-zonal solution envisaged for Cyprus, it should be acknowledged that fundamentally the question of displaced persons in Cyprus was now resolved. As matters now stood, in Cyprus, "displaced" did not mean "misplaced". Humanitarian assistance to the groups affected on both sides should not take the form of a claim for the return of displaced persons to their original settlements. Such a claim would be incompatible with Security Council resolution 649 (1990), which the Greek Cypriots were now endeavouring to invalidate. His delegation hoped that the Greek Cypriot side would review its attitude and start adhering to agreed commitments in order that undesired and irreversible situations do not arise.

460th meeting

Paragraph 2, line 1

For 1. read 2.